

About CIRM

The **California Institute for Regenerative Medicine** ("**The Institute**" or "**CIRM**") was established in early 2005 following the passage of Proposition 71, the California Stem Cell Research and Cures Initiative. The statewide ballot measure, which provided \$3 billion in funding for stem cell research at California universities and research institutions, was approved by California voters on November 2, 2004, and called for the establishment of a new state agency to make grants and provide loans for stem cell research, research facilities and other vital research opportunities.

The Independent Citizens Oversight Committee ("**ICOC**") is the 29-member governing board for the Institute. The ICOC members are public officials, appointed on the basis of their experience earned in California's leading public universities, non-profit academic and research institutions, patient advocacy groups and the biotechnology industry.

The mission of CIRM is to support and advance stem cell research and regenerative medicine under the highest ethical and medical standards for the discovery and development of cures, therapies, diagnostics and research technologies to relieve human suffering from chronic disease and injury. To date, the CIRM governing board has approved 294 grants totaling more than \$761 million, making CIRM the largest source of funding for embryonic and pluripotent stem cell research in the world.

CIRM has generated a Stem Cell Basics primer to explain what stem cells are and how they can benefit human health. There are also videos of CIRM-funded researchers talking about stem cell research and a research blog of papers that have been published by CIRM grantees.

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